

The Economic Development Department's new mid-calendar year update, *SacEDGE – Economic Development Growing and Expanding*, is part of our commitment to provide ongoing information about the department and City projects. This update will recap major events and milestones achieved by the department's business retention and expansion efforts, as well as redevelopment projects underway in our opportunity areas.

Helping businesses grow

Sacramento's business retention and expansion (BRE) program focuses on helping existing businesses grow to collectively improve the local business climate and further economic vitality. Through various informational activities, seminars, site visits and other programs, BRE staff has connected with more than 400 businesses since January. Looking ahead, BRE staff is developing additional activities to connect with businesses throughout the City by the end of the year.

BRE Program	Businesses Reached
Business walk. This first-ever business walk was held at the Power Inn business park to gain firsthand feedback from the local business community on the state of their companies.	179
Business seminars. The City and the Power Inn Alliance sponsored two seminars to connect the business community with opportunities and resources to help their businesses grow.	33
Small Business Certifications issued	100
Sewer Credits issued	21
Other site visits	68
Total	401

Mel Rapton Honda is on course to open at its new location by year's end

The relocation of the Mel Rapton Honda auto dealership from Fulton Avenue to the former Sacramento Trapshooting Club near the Haggin Oaks Golf Complex is moving along at a steady pace and the dealership is expected to open by the end of the year. It's anticipated that the new 10-acre site will generate \$1.4 million in lease payments and sales tax.



In July, a massive crane hoisted walls into place at the dealership's new location. Auto repair capacity will be doubled at the new site.

Sacramento wins a \$200,000 Solar America Cities grant to advance sustainability efforts

Sacramento was recently named as one of 12 U.S. cities to receive a Solar America Cities grant from the U.S. Department of Energy. The \$200,000 grant will be used to develop programs that support solar energy advancement over a two-year period. Grant monies will help to:

- Install photovoltaic systems on City-owned rooftops and community centers to generate renewable energy;
- Establish a clean and green technology incentive zone;
- Develop a solar technician certificate program; and
- Examine existing planning policies and design guidelines to address barriers to solar technology.

State bond money for major infill projects will stimulate Sacramento development

Two of the largest infill projects in Sacramento's history reached major milestones in June. The Railyards and Township 9 developments received state funding through Proposition 1C. The more than \$66 million in transit-oriented and infill development funds will be used for initial infrastructure and road improvements. Another Sacramento-area project, Broadway Lofts, received \$4.4 million in state funding for a multi-story condo plan at Broadway and 19th Street.

Looking ahead

Two historic buildings on 10th Street will soon be downtown hot spots

By the end of the year, two corners on 10th at J and K streets will offer a wide range of activity for local residents and visitors alike. In one of Sacramento's key focus areas, a pair of local historic buildings will be converted to an entertainment and nightlife hub and a high-end boutique hotel and restaurant respectively.

- **The Cosmopolitan**, at the location of the 1956 Woolworth Building, will feature a cabaret theater, restaurant, and a nightclub and



lounge that will add to the other entertainment venues on K Street, such as the Crest and IMAX theaters. California Musical Theatre will launch its first completely new theater experience with "Forever Plaid."

- **The Citizen Hotel**, a 197-room boutique hotel, is a transformation of the 82-year-old former Cal Western Life building. Once open, it will have more than 11,000 square feet of meeting space, a rooftop terrace and a high quality restaurant featuring California cuisine.



Progress by the numbers

Projects Completed or In Progress	39
Total Public-Private Investment	\$647.8 million
New or Retained Jobs	2,888
Estimated New Annual Revenue	\$ 6.6 million

Progress since January 2006

Sacramento delegation visits Japan to learn about gasification technology

A group of Sacramento business leaders and City officials recently visited Japan to study a promising technology that could reduce the City's reliance on waste storage. The delegation toured the innovative plasma arc gasification plant in Utashinai, Japan – one of only a handful of facilities in operation around the world. This particular facility processes 300 tons of garbage, old tires and shredded automobile parts each day, decreasing the amount of waste that otherwise would be shipped to landfills or incinerated.

Currently, the City and U.S. Science and Technology Corporation are exploring this technology further to determine its technical, environmental and financial feasibility. This process has the ability to vaporize garbage at temperatures hotter than the sun's surface, both reducing transportation emissions produced by hauling garbage long distances and saving land used for waste storage. In addition, a byproduct of the vaporized trash is a synthetic gas that can be converted to electricity.

Bringing private investment to Old Sac

Two Old Sacramento projects, the Orleans Hotel and the Ebner/Empire Hotel, are moving forward to bring reinvestment to Sacramento's premier tourist attraction. Partially funded by the City's redevelopment agency, they will provide a diverse mix of office, residential and retail space, while adding to the Gold Rush-era ambience of the historic district.



Orleans Hotel – The largest "new construction" in Old Sac in decades

- 44,000 sq. ft. mixed use with 7,400 sq. ft. of retail and restaurant space
- 24 residential rental units
- Project cost: \$13.3 million
- Completion: September 2008

Ebner/Empire Hotel – A new building that will replicate the original 1856 Hotel

- 26,000 sq. ft. mixed use with 6,500 sq. ft. of retail space
- Project cost: \$5.9 million
- Completion: Summer 2009

